

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) An electromagnetic radiation delivery apparatus for skin treatment, comprising:

a radiation delivery head having a source of electromagnetic radiation;

an emission window which is optically coupled to the source of electromagnetic radiation and is able to emit the electromagnetic radiation; and;

a recess which is open on one side; and

vacuum means for lowering a pressure inside the recess,

~~characterized in that wherein~~ the apparatus further comprises a pressure gauge for measuring a pressure inside the recess.

2. (Currently amended) ~~An~~ The apparatus according to claim 1, further ~~characterized by comprising~~ control means connected to the pressure gauge and to the source of electromagnetic radiation,

wherein the control means are able to prevent the source of electromagnetic radiation from emitting electromagnetic radiation when the pressure measured by the pressure gauge is higher than a predetermined threshold value.

3. (Currently amended) ~~An~~The apparatus according to claim 2, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the threshold value is from 10 to 250 mbar below ambient pressure.

4. (Currently amended) ~~An~~The apparatus according to claim 2, ~~characterized in that~~wherein during a period of time in which the measured pressure inside the recess is below the threshold value, the control means prevent the electromagnetic radiation source from emitting electromagnetic radiation above a predetermined maximum amount of energy.

5. (Currently amended) ~~An~~The apparatus according to claim 2, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the control means comprise a shutter that is able to prevent emission of the electromagnetic radiation.

6. (Currently amended) ~~An~~The apparatus according to claim 1,  
~~characterized in that~~wherein an emission window is present in the  
recess.

7. (Currently amended) ~~An~~The apparatus according to claim 1,  
~~characterized in that~~wherein a recess surrounds the emission  
window.

8. (Currently amended) ~~An~~The apparatus according to claim 1,  
~~characterized in that~~wherein the recess comprises a  
circumferential edge.

9. (Currently amended) ~~An~~The apparatus according to claim 8,  
~~characterized in that~~wherein the circumferential edge is flexibly  
deformable.

10. (Currently amended) ~~An~~The apparatus according to claim 8,  
~~characterized in that~~wherein the circumferential edge lies on a  
plane surface, on a concave surface or on a convex surface.

11. (Currently amended) ~~An~~The apparatus according to claim 1,  
~~characterized in that wherein~~ the electromagnetic radiation  
comprises infrared radiation, visible optical radiation or  
ultraviolet radiation.

12. (Currently amended) ~~An~~The apparatus according to claim 1,  
~~characterized in that wherein~~ the source of electromagnetic  
radiation comprises electromagnetic radiation generating means and  
electromagnetic radiation guiding means optically connected  
thereto.

13. (Currently amended) ~~An~~The apparatus according to claim  
12, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the electromagnetic radiation  
guiding means comprise a mirror, a hollow electromagnetic radiation  
guide or an optical fiber.

14. (Currently amended) ~~An~~The apparatus according to claim 1,  
~~characterized in that wherein~~ the source of electromagnetic  
radiation comprises a laser, a flash lamp, a LED, a gas discharge  
lamp or an incandescent lamp.